

Missouri Community Service Commission 2011 – 2012 Annual Report



The AmeriCorps Pledge



I will get things done for America - to make our people safer, smarter, and healthier.

I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy, I will take action.

Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground.

Faced with adversity, I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond.

I am an AmeriCorps Member, and I will get things done.

Letter from the Governor



GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI

JEFFERSON CITY
65102

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON
GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 720
(573) 751-3222

Dear Friends:

The roots of volunteerism extend deep into the rocks, bluffs and valleys of Missouri. As you review this annual report of the Missouri Community Service Commission, you will see exactly what I mean. Missourians are some of the most giving people on the planet. The report demonstrates that AmeriCorps is working in Missouri to build our communities. AmeriCorps members throughout the state serve as tutors in schools, assist at food banks, provide disaster relief, protect our streams and contribute other services in order to get things done for Missouri.

AmeriCorps Missouri is a means by which the Missouri Community Service Commission connects Missourians of all ages and backgrounds in an effort to improve unmet community needs through direct and tangible service. AmeriCorps Members give one to two years of their lives to address the most pressing needs in their communities. They reach out to their fellow citizens and recruit others to join them in their fight against illiteracy, poverty, crime, homelessness and other social problems. Members help change lifestyles and build healthy futures. These members see a society that has hope and they want to be a part of strengthening their own communities.

I invite you to review this annual report and learn how the Missouri Community Service Commission is helping people change the lives of those around them for the better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Nixon".

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor



Letter from the Missouri Community Service Commission

Dear Friends,

Since 1994 the Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) has helped build a sense of community throughout the state of Missouri by encouraging volunteerism and by providing AmeriCorps grants to local communities.

The MCSC receives funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service located in Washington, DC. These funds enable local communities the opportunity to implement AmeriCorps programs in their geographical areas by recruiting AmeriCorps Members. AmeriCorps Members serve by providing direct services; addressing the most pressing local civic needs in their communities and neighborhoods in areas of Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures and Veterans and Military Families.

In 2011-12, twenty-two (22) organizations provided such services in Missouri. Of these twenty-two thirteen (13) provided programs that addressed the area of education through tutoring, early childhood intervention, hands-on scientific experiments, and college entrance and success. Three programs served to provide disaster response, relief and mitigation. These programs responded to disasters, not only in Missouri, but across the United States of America. One program served in the area of environmental stewardship by removing debris and replacing invasive plants with Missouri native plants. They also provided assistance and safety supervision to visitors of a bicycle trail near downtown St. Louis. Other programs provided food and nutritional education to those in need, while another offered services to refugees; assisting them in getting settled in a new country. Still other programs served to prevent child abuse and to treat all forms of child abuse. Another program provided counseling for Medicare beneficiaries regarding their benefits and the availability of financial assistance. Lastly, another program was able to recruit spouses of veterans to serve as tutors to children during and after school. The Commission is very proud of its diversified portfolio of programs that, not only served in a variety of focus areas, but also served in various geographical areas across the state as you will see in the geographical presentation later on in this report.

We hope that you enjoy reviewing MCSC's annual report for 2011-2012. If you have questions or comments, please contact us at (573) 751-7488 or toll-free at (877) 210-7611.

Sincerely,

Linda Thompson

Linda Thompson
Executive Director

Janis VanMeter

Janis VanMeter
Chair

OVERVIEW

The Missouri Community Service Commission was created as a result of the National and Community Service Act drafted by a bipartisan coalition of Members of Congress in June of 1993. The bill was later signed into law on September 21, 1993. The legislation created the Corporation for National and Community Service to administer AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America, and the existing national service programs of VISTA and Senior Corps.

The Missouri Community Service Commission was created by the Missouri Legislature in 1994.

The Commission is housed within the Missouri Department of Economic Development.

The Commission, by Statute, is composed of 15-25 commissioners appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

Organizational Chart



Commissioners

Janis K. Van Meter, Chair

Nina North Murphy, Vice Chair

Michael Laverty, Ex Officio – CNCS

Russell Unger, Chair of Program Committee

Forrest Miller, Chair of Public Relations Committee

Cheryl Hibbeler, Chair of Service & Development Committee

John Albright, Chair of Legislative Education Committee

Lt. Governor Peter Kinder (Jay Eastlick, Proxy)

Chris Nicastro, DESE Director (Cindy Heislen, Proxy)

Randall McArthur

Daniel Kappel

Nicole Roach

Mission

The Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) connects Missourians of all ages and backgrounds in an effort to improve unmet community needs through direct and tangible service. The MCSC serves as the administrator for AmeriCorps State funding in Missouri by awarding monetary grants and providing technical assistance and support to its sub-grantees.

Vision

**To Strengthen Missouri Communities
Through Volunteerism and Service.**



2011-2012 Portfolio of Programs

2011-2012 AmeriCorps Missouri Program Locations

UMKC – Institute for Human Dev. Community Support Navigators
2220 Holmes
Kansas City, MO
816.235.5684
www.ihd.umkc.edu

Jumpstart Missouri – Kansas City
University of Missouri Kansas City
4825 Troost Avenue, Suite 215
Kansas City, MO 816.235.1003
www.jstart.org

Child Abuse Prevention Association
303 East 23rd Street
Independence, MO
816.232.8838
www.childabuseprevention.org

Harvesters – The Community Food Network
AmeriCorps Community Outreach
3801 Topping Avenue
Kansas City, MO
816.929.3000
www.harvesters.org

Eldon R-4 School District
PAVE AmeriCorps Tutoring Program
112 South Pine Street
Eldon, MO 573.392.8060
www.eldon.k12.mo.us

Purdy R-II School District
Purdy Reading Coaches
201 South Third Street
Purdy, MO 417.442-3217 ext 5
www.purdy.k12.mo.us

Seneca AmeriCorps Program
914 Frisco Street
Seneca, MO 417.776.3926
www.seneca.k12.mo.us

American Red Cross – Prevent, Prepare, Respond
1545 North West Bypass
Springfield, MO
http://volunteeredcross.org
866.206.0256 ext 141

Poplar Bluff's Promise
Butler County Community Resource Council
644 Charles Street, Poplar Bluff, MO
573.778.2650
www.poplarbluffs Promise.org

Waynesville R-VI School District
AmeriCorps Waynesville
200 Fleetwood Drive
Waynesville, MO
573.433.2030
www.waynesville.k12.mo.us

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri
Central Missouri Mentoring Project
800 N. Providence Road, Suite 110
Columbia, MO 573.874.3677
www.bigsofcentralmo.org

Jumpstart Missouri - Columbia
University of Missouri
201 Student Success Center
Columbia, MO 573.882.8942
www.jstart.org

AmeriCorps CLAIM
200 North Keene Street, Columbia, MO
573.817-8300 ext 214

College Bound AmeriCorps
110 Jefferson Avenue
St. Louis, MO
314.361-4441
www.collegebound.stl.org

International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis
3654 South Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO
314.773.9090
www.isti.org

Grace Hill Settlement House & Trail Rangers
2600 Hadley Street
St. Louis, MO
314.384.6703
www.gracehill.org

Wyman Center AmeriCorps
600 Kiwanis Drive
St. Louis, MO 636.938.5284
http://wymancenter.org

AmeriCorps St. Louis
St. Louis Partners Education Corps
Safety Service Corps
Joplin Recovery Corps
1315 Ann Avenue
St. Louis, MO 314.772.9002
www.americorps-stl.org

Bootheel Youth Museum, Inc.
Southeast Missouri Project Learning Experience (SMPE)
700 A North Douglass
Malden, MO 573.276.3600
www.bootheelyouthmuseum.org

Missouri College Advising Corps
University of Missouri
46 Jesse Hall
Columbia, MO 573.884.1926
http://mcac.missouri.edu/

Elg Brothers Big Sisters
of Central Missouri

SMPE
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI Project Learning Experience

American Red Cross: Prevent, Prepare, Respond

Program Director: Kristofer “Luke” Bolz

This AmeriCorps program meets the needs of underserved people in the rural areas of Southern Missouri. Members serve within specific counties to: recruit new disaster relief volunteers to tend to the needs of those displaced by natural or man-made disasters; teach life-saving skills such as CPR, First Aid, and Disaster Preparedness to their communities; and to strengthen relationships and partnerships with many disaster related organizations to improve the services delivered to those affected by disasters. Through this program, communities in Southern Missouri will be revitalized with a spirit of service to their neighbors, and will be better prepared when disaster strikes.



AmeriCorps St. Louis Education Corps

Program Director: Kathleen Becherer

Approximately 40 Full-Time Members serve in teams of 4-6, assigned to one of 9 elementary schools. Teams focus on early reading skills through intensive one-on-one tutoring. Each Member tutors 8-10 students for the entire school year, in grades K-3rd, who are already behind in reading readiness or reading. Members also facilitate after-school programming and events on weeknights and weekends. They offer 3 weeks of pre-service training and 1 full day of in-service every other week and during days that schools are closed. It is not uncommon that Members serve 10-hour days. The vast majority of Members are college graduates who go on to teaching or graduate school upon completion of the term(s) of service. 1-2 Members are invited to spend a 3rd year in a leadership/fellowship role with the program each year.



AmeriCorps St. Louis Safety Service Corps

Program Director: Bruce Bailey

Approximately 35 Full-Time Members serve in teams to prepare for and respond to disasters across Missouri and, by invitation, to other states. Since its inception in 1994, this Emergency Response Team (ERT) has deployed to disasters in more than 50 Missouri counties and 30 States. During non-disaster times, Members serve in conservation corps across Missouri as well as in Montana during July and August. For the majority of years, much more time is spent in conservation service than for disasters. The Safety Service Corps partners with the Missouri Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the United Way, FEMA, SEMA, US Forest, as well as state and local disaster agencies and other State Commissions and Emergency Managers. It is not uncommon for Members to serve over 2,000 hours over the course of their term of service. 1-3 Members are invited to spend a 3rd year in a leadership/fellowship with the program each year.



© AmeriCorps St. Louis

AmeriCorps Waynesville

Program Director: Dr. Kim Hawk

AmeriCorps Waynesville Members serve alongside teachers in the Waynesville R-VI School District to provide reading and mathematics tutoring to students who are struggling academically. Members also serve at the Club TIGER after-school program, where they provide academic assistance, health and wellness activities, and club sponsorship to elementary and middle school students.

Waynesville, Missouri is the home of Fort Leonard Wood, a United States Army Installation Base. This places the program at a strategic advantage to recruit spouses of active duty military men and women who serve as tutors in the AmeriCorps Waynesville program.



AmeriCorps Poplar Bluff's Promise

Program Director: Rebecca Winters

Members address improving academic achievement among at-risk youth in Butler County. Members conduct after-school learning activities, tutor students, increase program enrollment and recruit volunteers to serve. Members serve in two school districts, four Head Start programs, the local Volunteer Center and the Boys and Girls Club after-school programs.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri

Program Director: Kerrie Bloss

The Central Missouri Mentoring Partnership Project trains AmeriCorps Members to serve side-by-side with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri mentors and staff to serve more at-risk children who have educational needs. AmeriCorps Members will recruit 600 mentors in Columbia, Mexico and Moberly who will serve with children from 23 elementary and middle schools. Members will recruit and coordinate volunteers, paying special attention to training the Big Brothers/Sisters to assist their Little's in their academic performance. The Big/Little matches may be in either the Community-Based or School-Based programs.



Bootheel Youth Museum SMPLE

Program Director: Patsy Reublin

The goal of the Bootheel Youth Museum (BYM) Southeast Missouri Project Learning Experiences (SMPL) AmeriCorps program is to provide hands-on activities, through scientific experiments, which strengthen the educational foundation of children. BYM SMPL AmeriCorps Members provide educational enrichment activities throughout Southeast Missouri in area schools, with community organizations and for museum guests. SMPL is a collaborative partnership between the Bootheel Youth Museum and Lincoln University Cooperative Extension.



Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA AmeriCorps)

Program Director: Melody Morgan

CAPA's mission is to prevent and treat all forms of child abuse by creating changes in individuals, families and society that strengthen relationships and promote healing. Some CAPA Members, who are all senior level Master's students in a clinical counseling degree, provide free therapeutic counseling services to children and families who have experienced abuse or related traumas. Other Members, who are senior level Bachelor of Social Work students, provide weekly in-home health education and case-management for high risk families with infant and toddler children. Lastly, they serve the community by providing prevention educational activities all across the Kansas City metro area. These activities most often take the form of safety skill building workshops for kids, parenting classes and psycho-educational groups.



Community Leaders Assisting the Insured of Missouri AmeriCorps Program (CLAIM AmeriCorps)

Program Director: Jim Day

Members provide counseling for Medicare beneficiaries, their family members and caregivers. This counseling is related to Medicare benefits and the availability of financial assistance programs. Members also educate beneficiaries and others on Medicare matters, promote the CLAIM program and related services and recruit additional volunteers. This statewide program expands the reach of the CLAIM program and improves access to services for seniors and disabled citizens of Missouri.



College Bound AmeriCorps

Program Director: Katie Bench

College Bound's mission is to provide promising high school students from under-resourced backgrounds with the academic enrichment, social supports and life skills needed to apply, matriculate and succeed in four-year colleges and the workforce. AmeriCorps Members serve either as a College or Persistence Coach. The College Coaches mentor high school students through the processes of preparing for and applying to college; Persistence Coaches support college students as they pursue their bachelor's degree.



Grace Hill Settlement House

Program Director: Gold Wise

AmeriCorps Members serve with families and support Settlement House staff to develop stronger neighborhoods and strengthen families by providing capacity to overwhelmed social service institutions, with the end result of strengthening both the community and families. The AmeriCorps project role is two-fold: 1) to ensure positive life changes for persons in need and crisis through the successful execution of case management plans set by agency professional staff and supported by AmeriCorps Members; and 2) to support successful school experiences leading to increased high school graduations and attendance at institutions of higher education.



Grace Hill Trail Rangers

Program Director: Gold Wise

AmeriCorps Trail Rangers assist in the lead development of the St. Louis Riverfront Trail and neighborhood connections to strengthen impoverished North City riverside communities, reinforce community responsibility, and provide educational and financial opportunities to its residents. Rangers continue to maintain the Trail area and provide services to over 13,500 annual Trail users. Rangers also give presentations that cover the topic of native plants, history, recycling, and their role.



Harvesters - The Community Food Network

Program Director: Ann Van Zee

Harvester's mission is to feed hungry people today and work to end hunger tomorrow. Through a network of 600+ agencies, children, families, and seniors are fed throughout a 26-county region. Members serve in key areas, including: volunteer services, food drives, outreach, and nutrition education. By engaging the community, Members increase awareness about hunger issues, secure perishable and non-perishable food items, and ensure volunteer support in acquiring and distributing donations quickly to those in need. Members also provide children and adults who receive food assistance with nutrition classes, resources and cooking ideas to enable them to make healthy lifestyle choices.



International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis

Program Director: Jane Knirr

In the International Institute of St. Louis Client Services program, AmeriCorps Members meet the needs of clients, while enriching their own lives, by assisting in providing adjustment services to help refugees rebuild their lives, integrate into their new communities, and become self-sufficient as soon as possible. Depending on their assignment, Members meet and greet families at the airport; conduct orientations; assist clients with completing applications; link clients to services and programs; schedule appointments; coordinate activities; recruit, assess and enroll clients in programs; teach life skills, home management, job preparation and farming/marketing classes; assist clients in job searches; and recruit volunteers.



Jumpstart Missouri – Columbia & Kansas City

Program Director(s): Chrissie Bennett (Columbia)
Silvina Munita (Kansas City)

To combat the crisis in early education, Jumpstart joins together dedicated college students, called Corps members, and pre-school children from low-income communities. During the course of a school year, Jumpstart Corps members utilize Jumpstart's high-quality early education programming to help young children develop the language, literacy and social skills essential for success in kindergarten and in life. Through this relationship, Jumpstart inspires children to learn, adults to teach, families to get involved, and communities to progress together. Jumpstart is working toward the day every child in America enters school prepared to succeed.



Missouri College Advising Corps

Program Director: Dr. Beth Tankersley-Bankhead

The Missouri College Advising Corps (MCAC) helps Missouri students gain access to college. Headquartered at the University of Missouri Columbia, MCAC is one of 10 inaugural corps in the national consortium of now 19 corps. MCAC is a full-time, non-profit college-access advising program that helps high school and community college students understand that they can complete a college degree, find their "best fit" post-secondary institution, and navigate the process of applying for admission and financial aid. MCAC advisers are intensively trained, at both the state and national levels, to serve in their role and provided resources to plan and facilitate college-planning workshops (e.g., FAFSA completion, financial literacy, completing college admissions) as well as to take students on campus tours so that students can experience college life and "see" themselves as belonging and succeeding there.



PAVE AmeriCorps

Program Director: Daphney Partridge

PAVE AmeriCorps Members provide one-on-one and small group tutoring to at-risk students in the Eldon R-I School District. Tutoring in communication arts, reading and math occurs at four campuses and includes 4th through 12th grade students as well as students enrolled in the Mustang Academy. Members mobilize and support community and parent volunteers to enhance community involvement in the school and expand services provided to at-risk students.



Purdy Reading Coaches

Program Director: Renae Neill

AmeriCorps Members provide literacy based tutoring to Kindergarten through Fourth grade students. A varied approach is used which includes one-on-one tutoring as well as small group sessions. AmeriCorps Members form an integral part of the district-wide "Response To Intervention" (RTI) program. The "Vision Intervention Program" (VIP) allows Members to address students who struggle with reading because of vision issues. Traditional one-on-one tutoring is provided for students reading below grade level while students who are already reading at or above grade level take part in small group enrichment activities.



Seneca R-7 AmeriCorps

Program Director: Kim Wilson

Seneca AmeriCorps Members serve in the Elementary School and Middle School as Reading Coaches and as mentors to students identified as at risk in the after-school programs. Members will also serve on the local capacity building committee to increase the effectiveness of community service as well as recruit volunteers.



UMKC Institute for Human Development Community Support Navigators

Program Director: Jane St. John

The Missouri Community Service Commission contracts with Missouri's University Center on Excellence for Developmental Disabilities, which is housed within the University of Missouri-Kansas City. The Institute for Human Development (IHD) helps to assist in identifying strategies for recruitment and successful service completion involving people with disabilities. IHD provides outreach to the disabled community by promoting service opportunities, working with local sponsor sites to increase awareness, developing capacity for Members with disabilities to serve, etc. Over 5,000 individuals with disabilities, family members, key supports and professionals at 20 events received information on how ALL people can serve, not only in AmeriCorps, but also in other streams of National Service.



Safety Service Corps Joplin Recovery Project incorporated as Partnership for Youth

Program Director: Bruce Bailey

AmeriCorps Members support extended involvement in the City of Joplin, Missouri for continuing recovery efforts. The City has loaned the program a municipal building to use as an on-going hub where continued efforts are put forth to coordinate and manage volunteers, donations, homeowner work requests and collaborate on public recovery projects. Objectives of the program are: to maintain a homeowner intake system which prioritizes special needs cases, link with casework management and match resources to those families; assist with job placement of displaced workers; collaborate with the City on a variety of municipal/public projects that relate to rebuilding parks and developing trails and other green spaces; assist in organizing, gathering, tracking and soliciting donations that are able to assist in the rebuilding efforts; and act as a conduit for volunteer engagement in the long-term recovery process.



Wyman Center AmeriCorps

Program Director: Deborah Morley

Wyman's mission is to enable teens from disadvantaged circumstances to lead successful lives and build strong communities. Our vision is to foster communities where every teen is expected and supported to thrive in life, work and learning so that they may become economically self-sufficient, leaders in their communities and, ultimately, break the cycle of poverty. AmeriCorps Members serve teens in the Teen Leadership (TLP) and Teen Outreach Programs (TOP). Additionally, one Member serves in the role of Community Service Learning Coordinator and supports both programs by searching out and developing relationships with community agencies who will host Service Learning projects for Wyman Teens.





Members from the Bootheel Youth Museum take a moment to enjoy each other during their AmeriCorps Service. Many times the Members bond through Service and leave as life-long friends who share a passion for Service.



PAVE AmeriCorps Members partner with Miller County Emergency Management to support Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to fulfill the Disaster Response requirement. The disaster simulation is pictured above.



AmeriCorps Members from College Bound pose for a picture with former Congressman Russ Carnahan.



International Institute AmeriCorps Members and volunteer group Bass Nectar tend to the International Institute of Saint Louis' global garden.



Members from Big Brothers Big Sisters, Missouri College Advising Corps, and Jumpstart Columbia get instructions before beginning their service project at the Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri.



College Bound AmeriCorps Members participate in a food drive as a service project. Programs not only focus on their initiative area, but also support and give back to their communities through service projects.



Members from Jumpstart Kansas City pose for a picture before their disaster training simulation hosted by Harvesters – Community Food Network AmeriCorps Program.

STATISTICAL DATA IMPACT ANALYSIS

As noted on previous pages, the MCSC's portfolio is very diversified. Education, Disaster Response and Relief, Human Needs, and Environmental programs all impact the lives of the people of Missouri in a variety of positive ways.

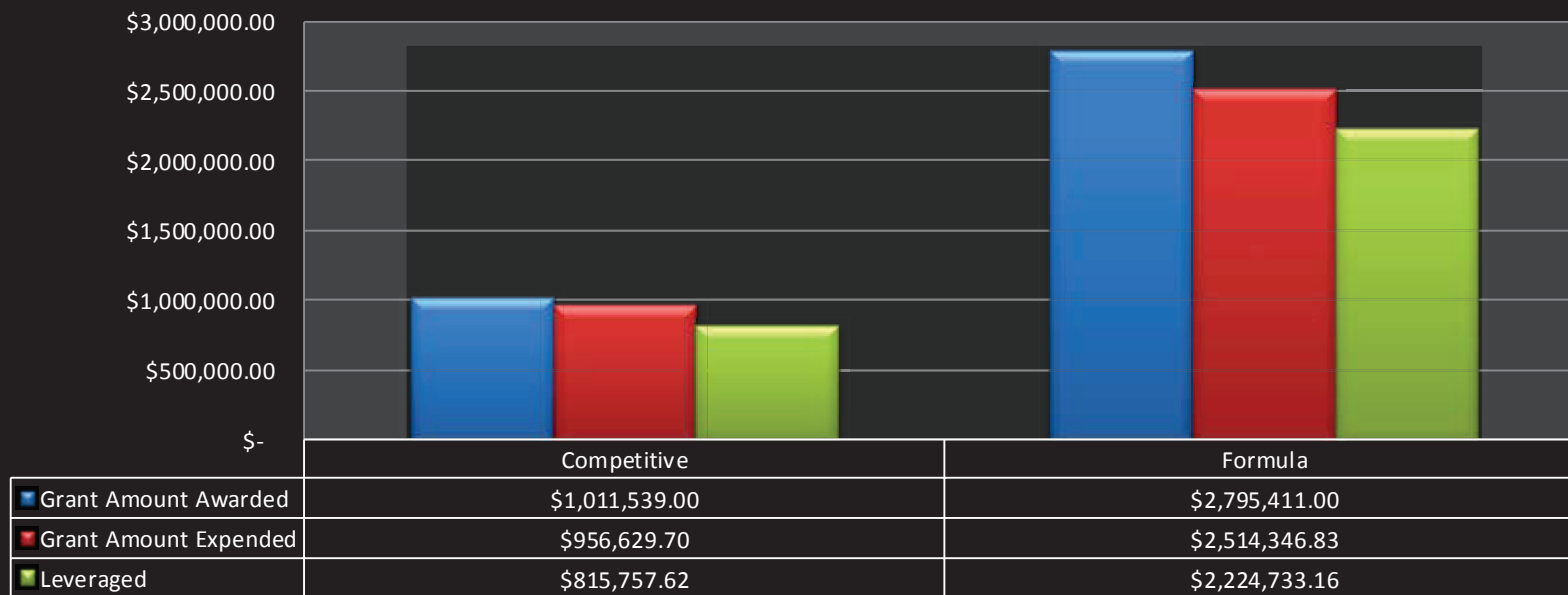
Funding

Funding is provided to the Missouri Community Service Commission by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and from the State of Missouri's General Revenue (GR) fund.

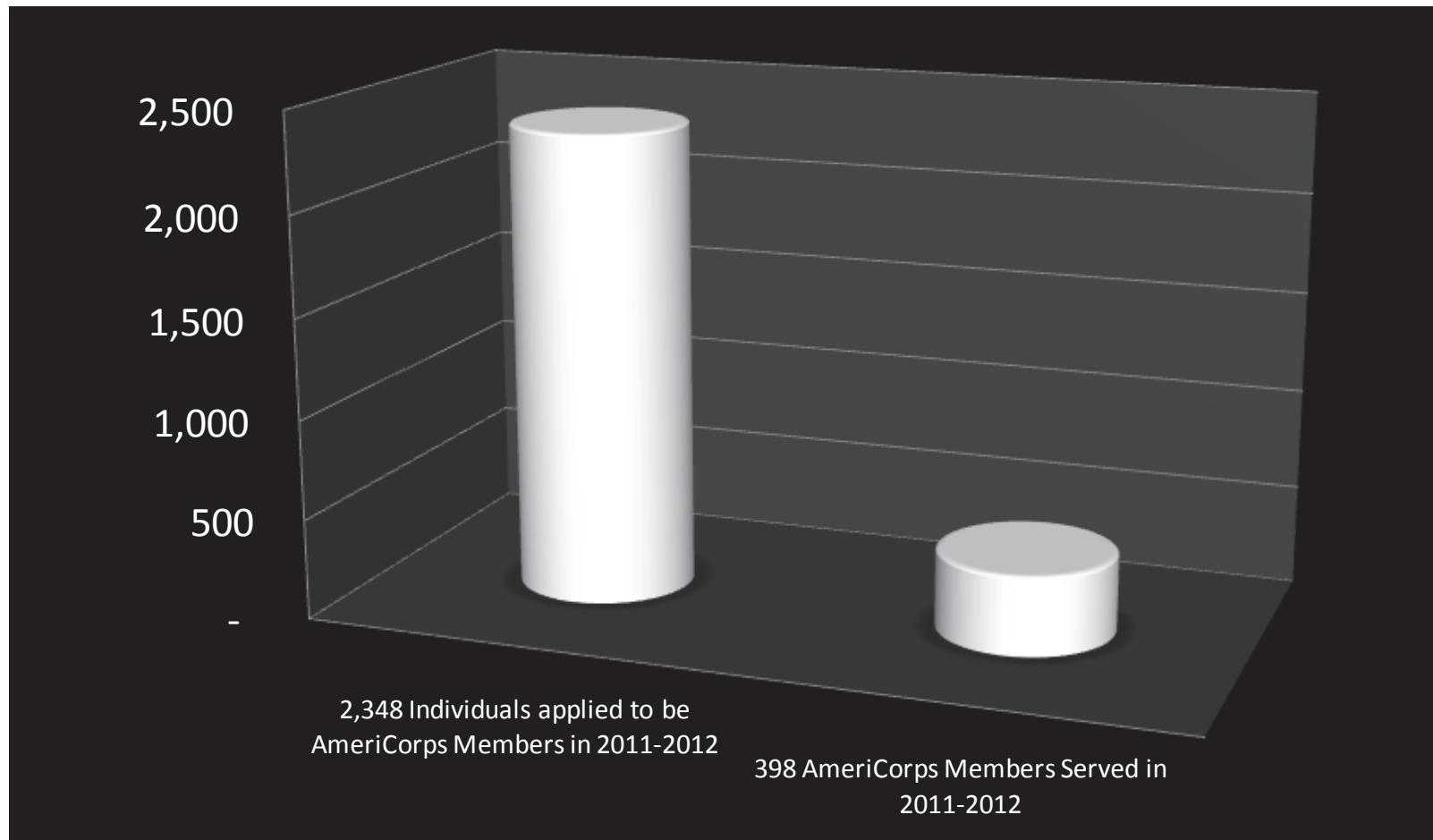
Fund	Source	Purpose	Award Amount
Administrative & General Revenue	CNCS GR	Operating expenses, salaries, supplies, travel, and other overhead costs	\$268,037 \$33,019
Program Development and Training (PDAT)	CNCS	Development and training of sub-grantees	\$28,875
Inclusion	CNCS	Outreach to individuals with disabilities to provide them the opportunity to share in the AmeriCorps experience	\$76,141
Formula	CNCS	Sub-granted to qualifying organizations to implement AmeriCorps programs	\$2,795,411
Competitive	CNCS	Sub-granted to qualifying organizations to implement AmeriCorps programs	\$1,011,539

ROI (Return On Investment)

Formula and competitive dollars are sub-granted to qualifying organizations to implement AmeriCorps programs in their communities and neighborhoods. Additional dollars are leveraged as a result of those federal dollars. Leveraged dollars may be a combination of both cash and in-kind.



Number of Applicants vs. Number of AmeriCorps Members



Volunteer Recruitment

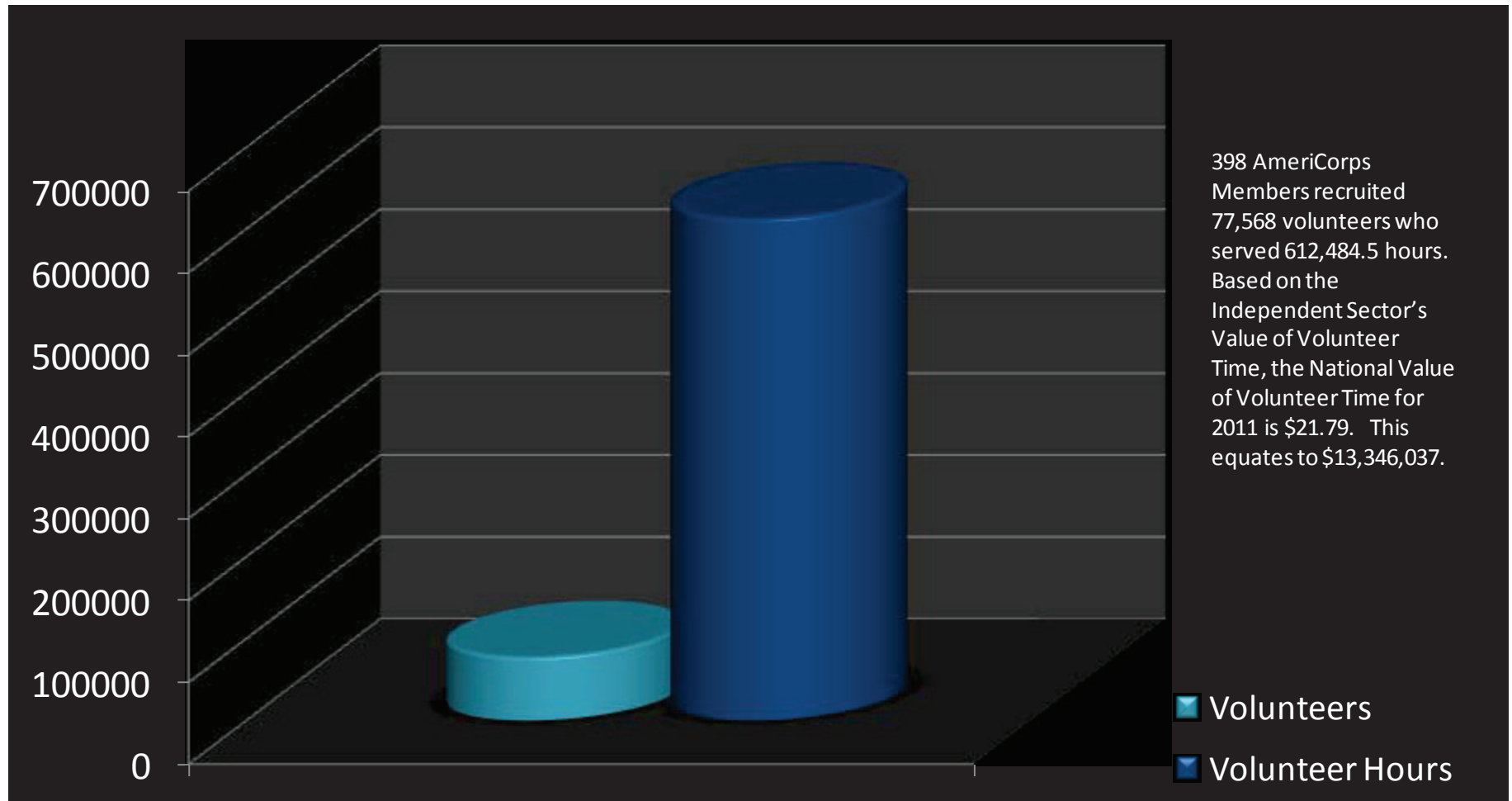
398 AmeriCorps Members recruited 77,568 volunteers.



■ Number of AmeriCorps Members

■ Number of Volunteers Recruited by AmeriCorps Members

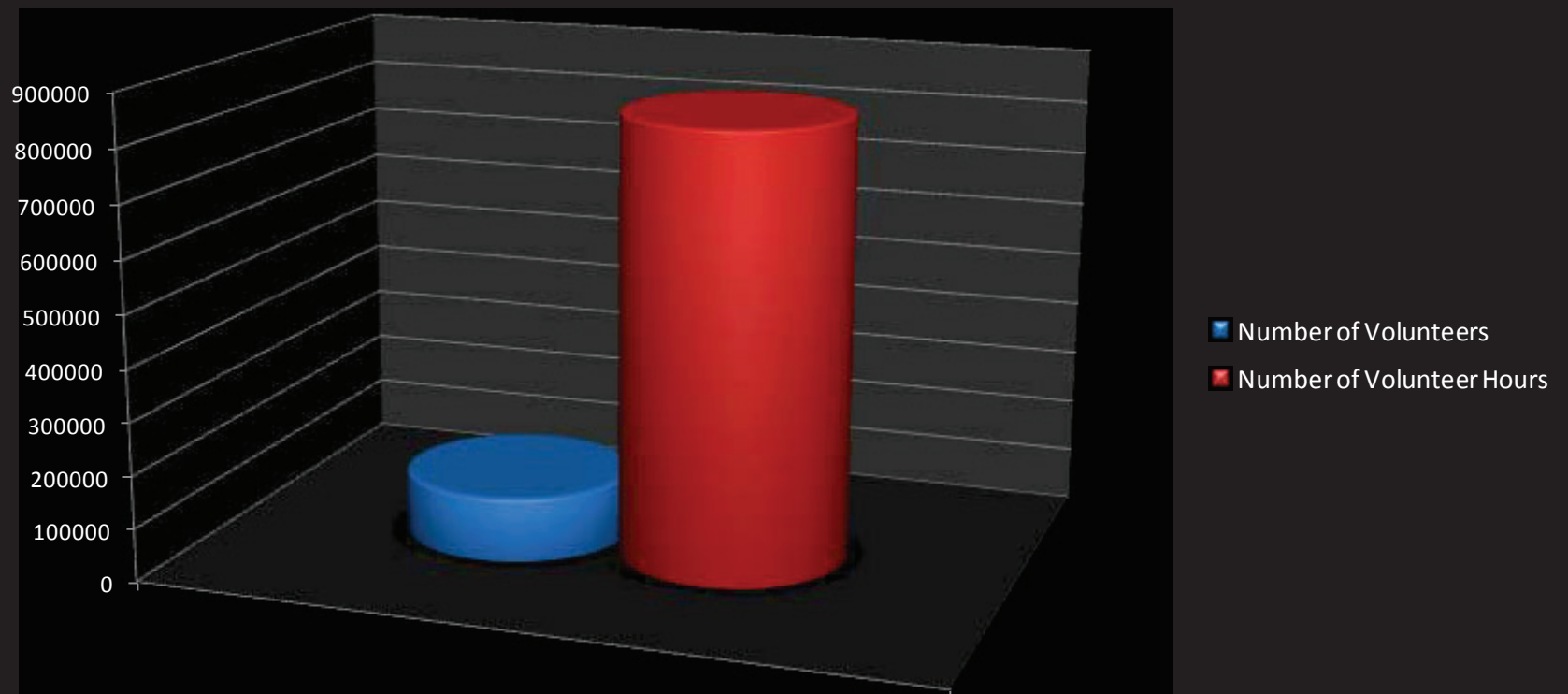
Volunteers Recruited by AmeriCorps Members



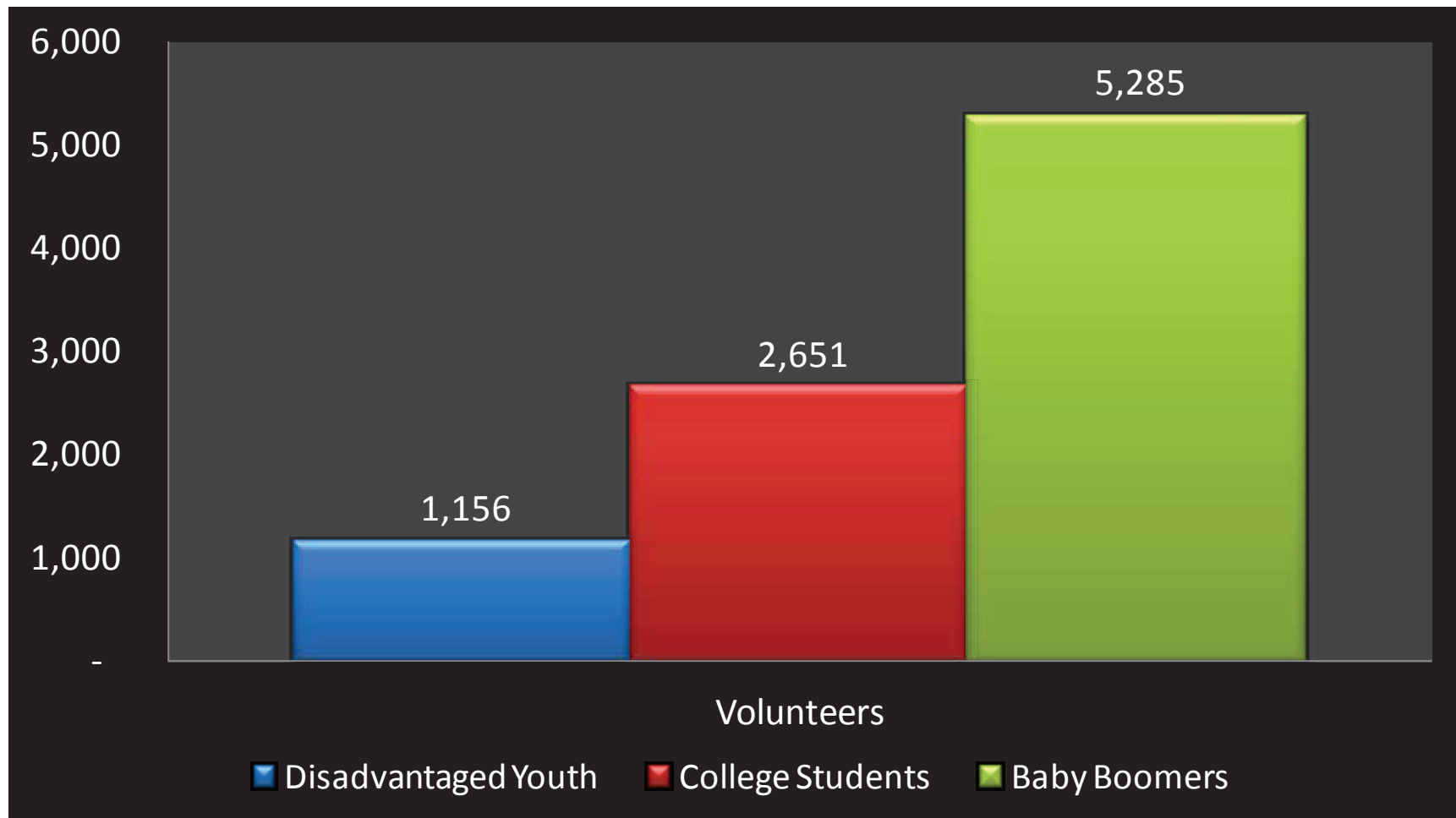
Value of Volunteer Time

Volunteers are recruited by AmeriCorps Members as well as through other methods. 122,437 volunteers, including those directly recruited by AmeriCorps Members, participated in service projects and/or disaster relief projects associated with MCSC programs/sub-grantees in 2011-2012. These volunteers served a total of 840,962 hours. Based on the Independent Sector, the national value of volunteer time is \$21.79 per hour or a total value of **\$18,324,561**.

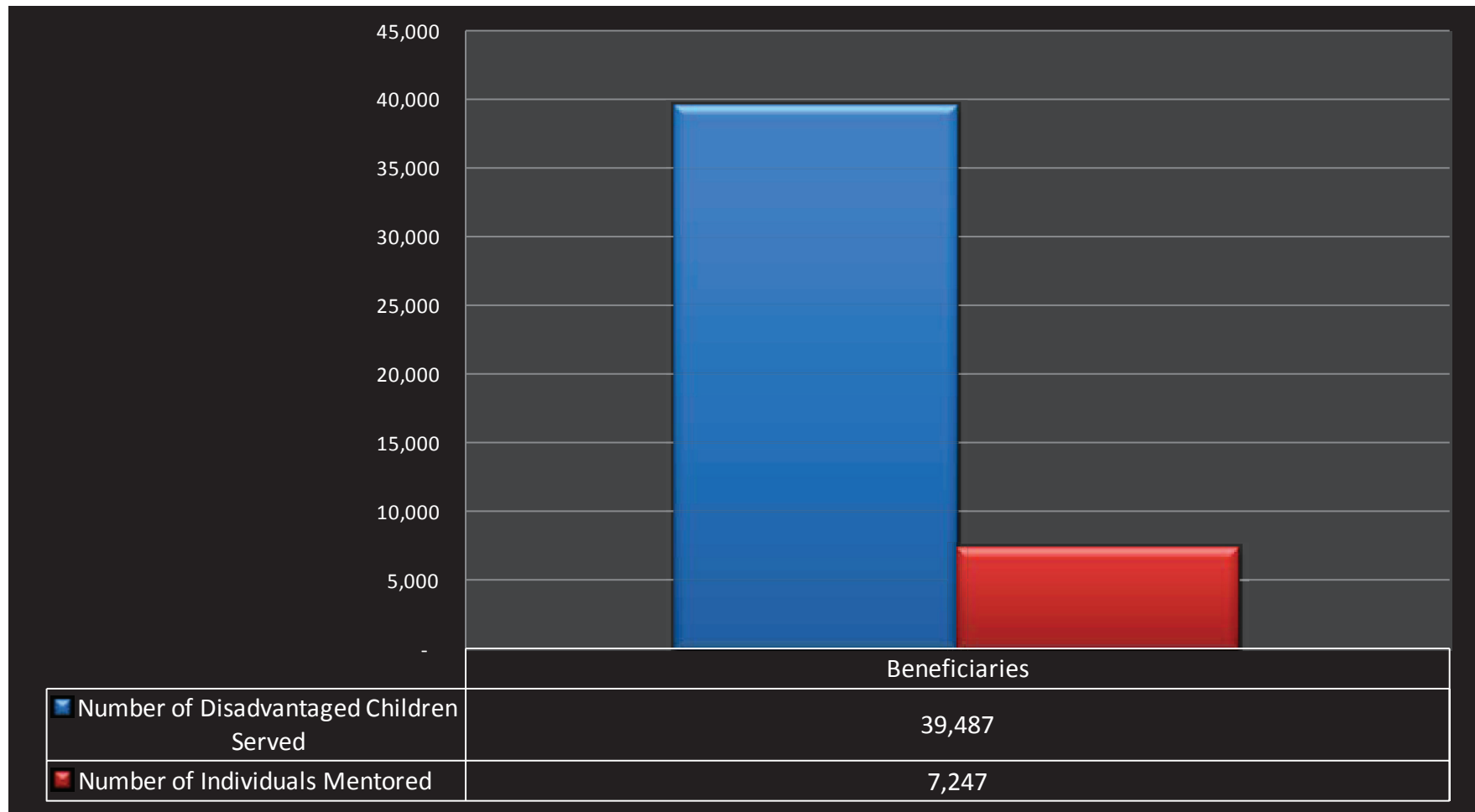
Source: http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time



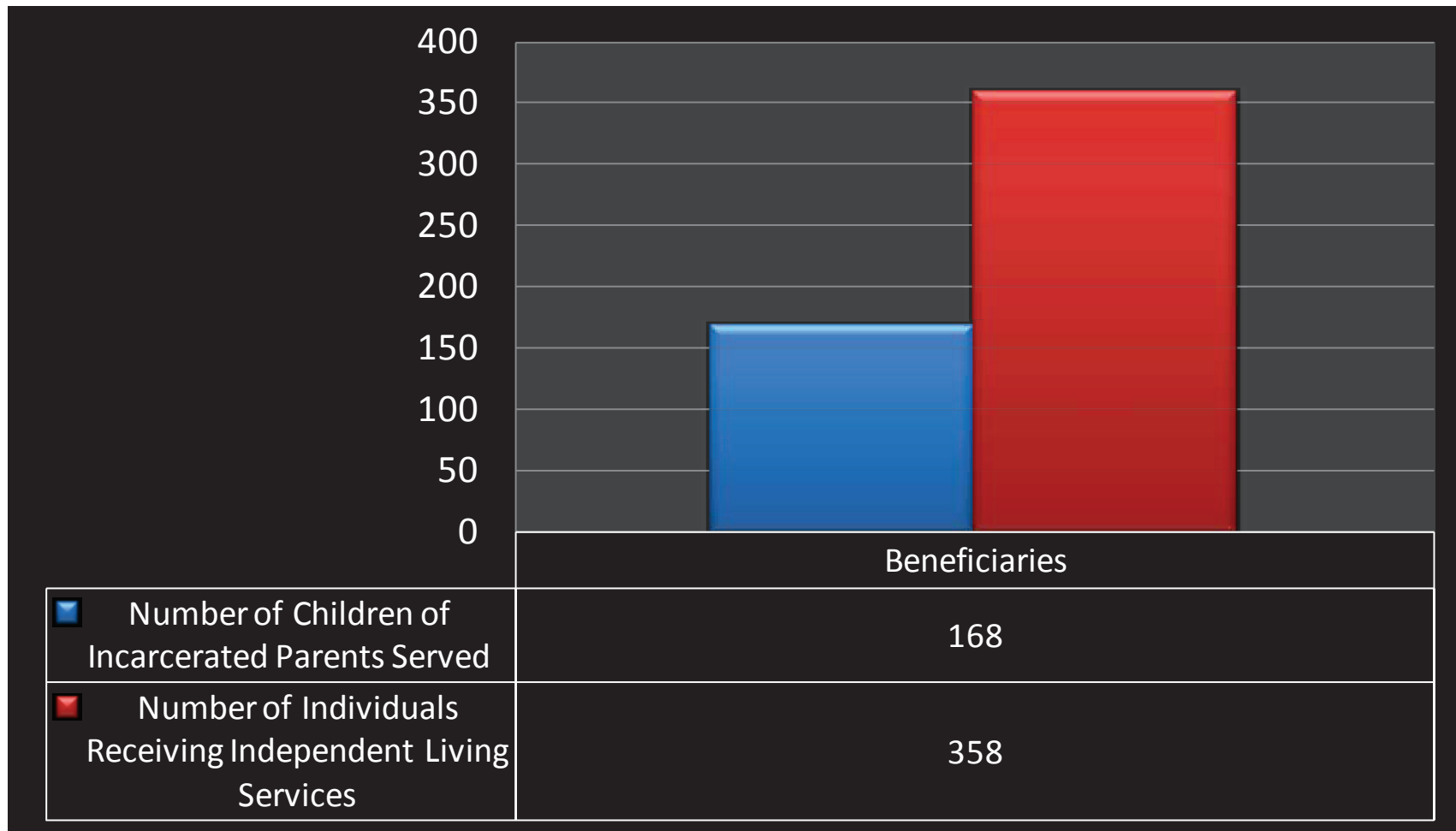
Volunteers Come From Varying Backgrounds



Beneficiaries of AmeriCorps Service



Beneficiaries (continued)



Joplin Memorial to Volunteers

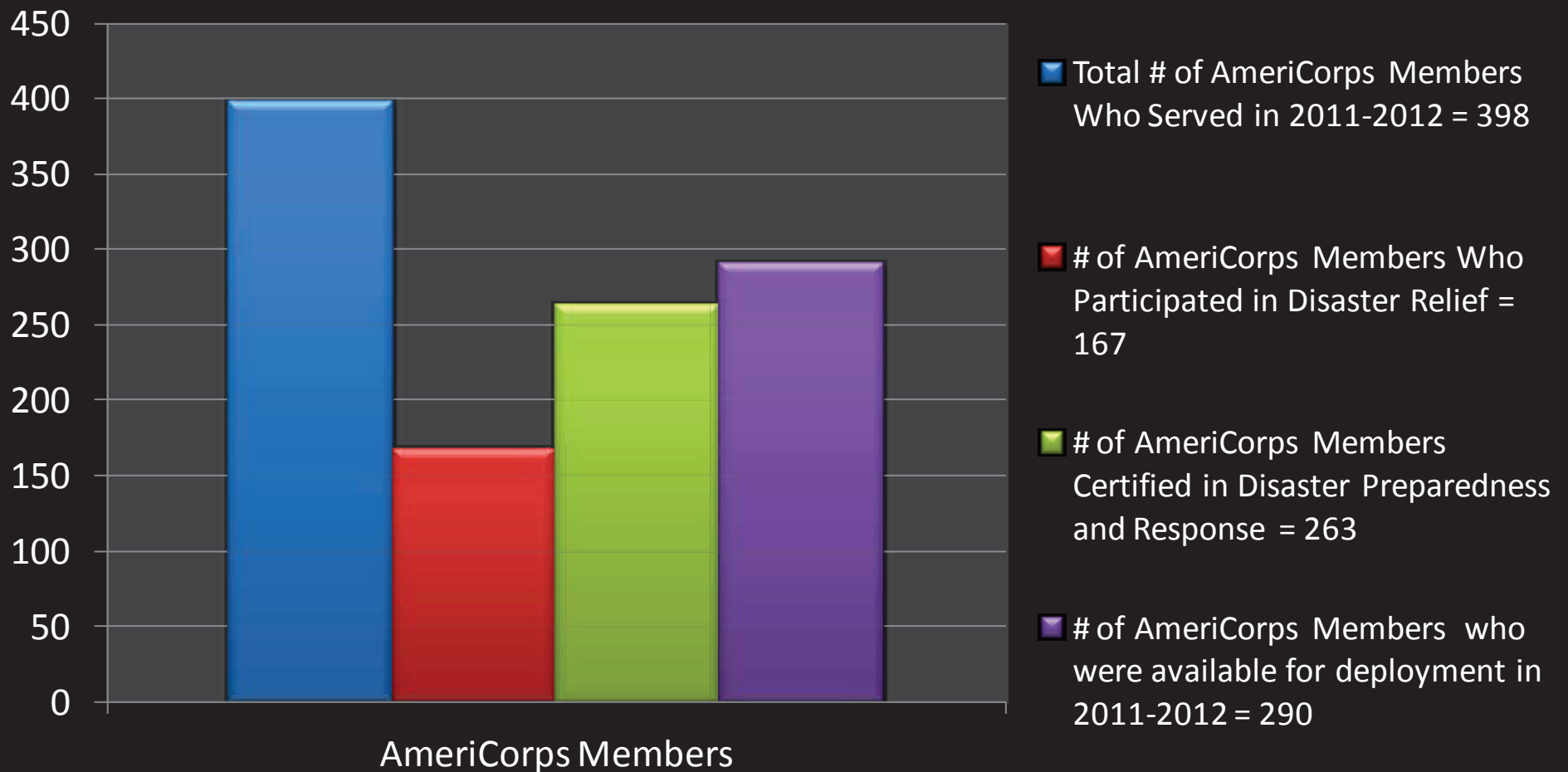
A TRIBUTE TO THE VOLUNTEERS

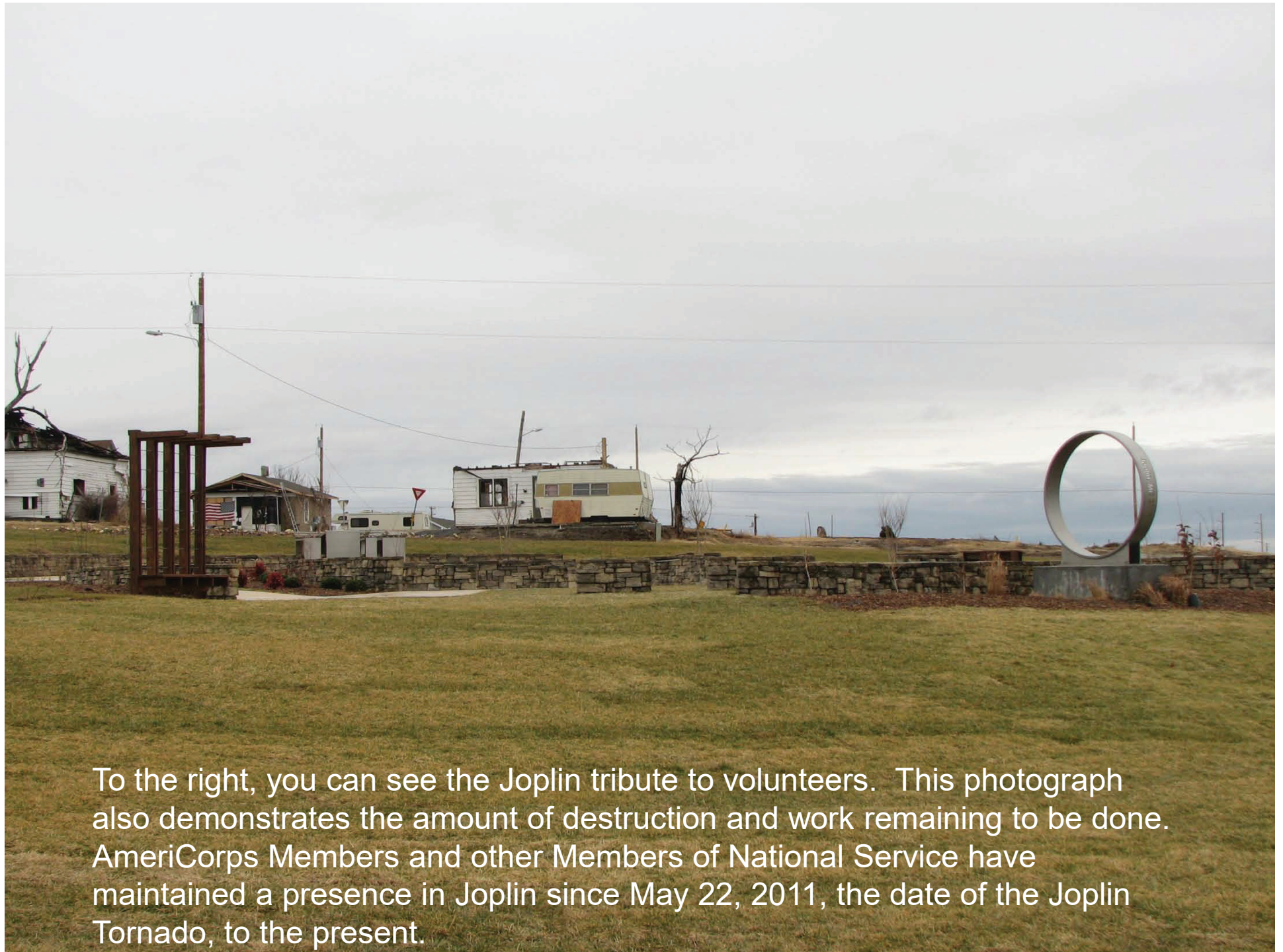
At 5:41 P.M. on May 22, 2011, an EF-5 tornado ripped through Cunningham Park and the greater Joplin area, leaving a path of death and destruction one mile wide by six miles long in its wake. Over 160 people perished in the storm. What immediately followed in staggering numbers and through personal accounts is "The Miracle of the Human Spirit."

The Miracle of the Human Spirit symbolizes the incredible outpouring of volunteers who have lifted Joplin out of the rubble. Countless volunteers from all walks of life have offered themselves to the Joplin effort without request, serving as a reminder of the overwhelming power of human generosity and the steadfast tenacity to rebuild the once broken city.

This tribute embodies the volunteers' determination through four rippling garden walls, representing Joplin's ongoing rescue, recovery, demolition, and rebirth. Several elements within the tribute - bronzed artifacts, a mosaic of remnants, a volunteer statue, and the emblematic wristband - represent the volunteers' unprecedented response. Joplin and its residents are eternally grateful to those heroes.

Disaster Preparedness, Response and Relief





To the right, you can see the Joplin tribute to volunteers. This photograph also demonstrates the amount of destruction and work remaining to be done. AmeriCorps Members and other Members of National Service have maintained a presence in Joplin since May 22, 2011, the date of the Joplin Tornado, to the present.

Disaster Response

167 Members responded to 151 disasters and 9,920 people received AmeriCorps disaster assistance.





Newly rebuilt Cunningham Park in Joplin, Missouri. The destroyed St. Johns Mercy Hospital can be seen in the background.



A tree trunk from the tornado has been re-purposed into an AmeriCorps logo that is placed outside of the AmeriCorps St. Louis Safety Service Corps, AmeriCorps Recovery Center.

EVENTS and SERVICE PROJECTS

An Annual Coat Drive is a service project held by the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Business and Community Services Division in conjunction with the MCSC and the local Samaritan Center. The coat drive begins after Thanksgiving and continues through the end of January. Its purpose is to provide coats to those in need to help keep Missourians warm during the cold winter months.

As you will see in the following section, this is only one of many events and projects sponsored by the Commission throughout the year.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

The Corporation for National and Community Service recognizes Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a Day ON not a Day OFF... A Day of Service. Programs across the state participated in different ways to support the ideals of Dr. King and to support a Day of Service. Activities included food and coat drives, school revitalizations, distribution of energy efficiency information and supplies, as well as MLK Marches and programs.



Annual Celebration of
Service and Volunteerism
– Stoney Creek Inn,
Columbia, MO

Several Members from Missouri State AmeriCorps Programs created and performed an original song for the attendees of the Annual Celebration of Service and Volunteerism.



Annual Celebration of
Service and Volunteerism
– Stoney Creek Inn,
Columbia, MO

Following the "Life After AmeriCorps" training, Members enjoyed a networking dinner and attended the "Annual Celebration of Service and Volunteerism". Service awards, as well as High School Scholarships, were presented throughout the evening.



High School Student-Volunteer Community Service Awards

The Missouri Community Service Commission, with sponsorship from Monsanto, awarded eight "High School Student-Volunteer Community Service Awards" that included a gubernatorial proclamation as well as educational scholarships in the amount of \$1,000.00 each. The Service and Development Committee created, advertised, collected, judged and presented these awards and scholarships to high school students from across the state.



MONSANTO
imagine®



MEMBER RECOGNITION

In the following pages:

- AmeriCorps Members were recognized for their service to Joplin, Missouri. They were presented resolutions on the House floor of the Missouri State Capitol Building.
- All AmeriCorps Members who responded to the Joplin Disaster were invited to hold the American flag on the field prior to a Kansas City Chiefs football game.
- Programs from the AmeriCorps Missouri portfolio received National Service Awards from the Corporation for National and Community Service.



Joplin Response Recognition

AmeriCorps Members from across the state of Missouri, along with Members of National Service from Washington, Iowa, Minnesota, Texas and Arkansas were recognized with resolutions on the House floor of the Missouri State Capitol Building for their service to Joplin. Representatives Bill White and Charlie Davis expressed immense gratitude for the AmeriCorps Programs and their Members.



Joplin Response Recognition

AmeriCorps Members from across the state of Missouri, along with Members of National Service from Washington, Iowa, Minnesota, Texas and Arkansas were recognized with resolutions on the House floor of the Missouri State Capitol Building for their service to Joplin.

Included in the picture are Representatives White and Davis, Community Service Commission Staff, Corporation for National and Community Service Staff, AmeriCorps Program Directors and Staff, and most importantly, AmeriCorps Members.



Kansas City Chiefs Football Game

AmeriCorps Members who responded to the Joplin tornado were recognized by the Kansas City Chiefs Football organization. AmeriCorps Staff and Members rehearse to display the American Flag during the National Anthem prior to the football game.



Kansas City Chiefs Football Game

Pictured at left top: Renae Neil of Purdy Reading Coaches of Purdy, MO share in fun with AmeriCorps Members before the Chief's game. Bottom left photo: Daphney Partridge of PAVE AmeriCorps in Eldon, MO pose for a photo on the Chief's football field in KC. The Chief's sponsored a tailgate party for the AmeriCorps Members prior to the game where they are joined by KC Wolf, the Chief's Mascot.



2012 National Service Impact Award – Waynesville AmeriCorps

This award was sponsored and chosen by the Corporation for National and Community Service. It was presented at the National Conference on Volunteerism and Service in Chicago, Illinois.

Missouri AmeriCorps programs received three of the nine national awards presented.

The transient nature of military life can make life difficult for students in military families, and many are stationed at Fort Leonard Wood for less than two years or experience parental deployment. They often have challenges with making new friends, fitting into social groups, and connecting with the community.

The rural Waynesville School District in Missouri encompasses the Fort Leonard Wood Military Installation, a training facility. Seventy percent of its students are military impacted families and in some schools, more than 50 percent of the student population changes annually. AmeriCorps and VISTA teams have partnered with Learn and Serve America to create a comprehensive after-school program for Waynesville schools to help the students stay on course academically.

The program continues during the summer, as students receive individualized assistance through the summer school program. Forty VISTA Summer Associates and AmeriCorps NCCC members partner with year-long AmeriCorps members to offer tutoring during school and to provide unique educational enrichment opportunities after school including camping, interactive science experiments, museum trips, leadership camps, fitness activities, and service-learning projects.

AmeriCorps members provide tutoring and academic support to 1,696 students throughout the school day and lead more than 400 students in afterschool programs. Meanwhile, VISTA members work behind the scenes to assess the needs of each program, establish clubs, create workshops for parents and students, and secure grant funding.



2012 National Service Impact Award – AmeriCorps St. Louis Safety Service Corps

This award was sponsored and chosen by the Corporation for National and Community Service. It was presented at the National Conference on Volunteerism and Service in Chicago, Illinois.

Missouri AmeriCorps programs received three of the nine national awards presented.

The Safety Service Corps, commonly known as the Emergency Response Team (ERT) answered the call time and time again after natural disasters scarred communities across the Midwest in 2011 and into 2012. From the record-setting devastation of the EF-5 tornado that struck Joplin, to the massive floods that covered southeast and northwest Missouri and flowed into surrounding states, the 35 full-time AmeriCorps Members traveled across the state and region to come to the aid of those in the path of these destructive forces of nature.

Some ERT Members initially focus on critical safety needs assisting with search and rescue, distribution of life-sustaining supplies, and outreach to special needs families. At the same time, other Members collaborate with community leaders to effectively manage volunteers, coordinate donations, and develop an effective approach for recovery.

In Joplin alone, ERT Members coordinated more than 75,000 volunteers to complete 2,200 homeowner requests. ERT Members documented volunteer hours and the use of donated equipment contributed an economic value of over \$17.8 million, off-setting the City of Joplin and the state of Missouri's required match for federal disaster funds.



**2012 National Service
Impact Award – National
College Advising Corps**

This award was sponsored and chosen by the Corporation for National and Community Service. It was presented at the National Conference on Volunteerism and Service in Chicago, Illinois.

Missouri AmeriCorps programs received three of the nine national awards presented.



The National College Advising Corps, parent umbrella for the Missouri College Advising Corps, was awarded 1 of 9 2012 National Service Impact Awards from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). Missouri College Advising Corps is one of 10 inaugural and now 19 corps in the national program.

COMMISSIONERS , STAFF AND PROGRAM STAFF

In photograph, Janis Van Meter, Chair of the Missouri Community Service Commission takes an opportunity before the Chief's game to pose with Bruce Bailey, Director of St. Louis AmeriCorps Safety Service Corps and Kathleen Becherer, Director of the St. Louis Education Corps.

Commissioners are dedicated to MCSC's mission and vision. They attend quarterly meetings and visit AmeriCorps Programs across the state. They also play a large role in promoting service as well as making funding decisions and branding AmeriCorps.

Commissioners and staff work closely to create a statewide awareness of the benefits of AmeriCorps Service.



Quarterly Meeting in Waynesville

The AmeriCorps program in Waynesville hosted a Commissioner quarterly meeting where commissioners met with Members, Program Staff and toured Fort Leonard Wood's Military Base. In photo: Staff of the Missouri Community Service Commission, Commissioners and staff from State Senator Claire McCaskill's office pause to take a picture at Ft. Leonard Wood while visiting program sites.



Quarterly Meeting in Springfield

The American Red Cross AmeriCorps Program hosted a commissioner quarterly meeting. Commissioners met with Members, program staff and toured Joplin, Missouri to view the devastation and re-building of a town destroyed by an EF-5 tornado in 2011, a town where many AmeriCorps Members continue to serve. Pictured left to right: Executive Director, Linda Thompson, Commissioner Russ Unger, Chair Janis VanMeter, Commissioner Cindy Heislen, KS/MO CNCS State Director Michael Laverty, and Commissioner Forrest Miller.



Quarterly Meeting in Poplar Bluff

The AmeriCorps Program in Poplar Bluff, Missouri hosted the Commissioners for a quarterly meeting. The Commissioners met with Members and Program staff and completed a service project to give back to the community. Pictured below are Commissioners Cindy Heislen and Forrest Miller, serving diligently to stripe the parking lot at the Senior Nutrition Center in Poplar Bluff, Missouri.



Quarterly Meeting in Poplar Bluff

Commission Chair, Janis VanMeter, and Jim Karll, husband of Commissioner Cheryl Hibbeler, serve with a smile while striping the parking lot of the Senior Nutrition Center in Poplar Bluff, Missouri.



Quarterly Meeting in Poplar Bluff

Cheryl Hibbeler, Commissioner and Chair of the Service and Development Committee, pauses for an interview during the striping of the Poplar Bluff Senior Nutrition Center's Parking lot. Commissioner Hibbeler understands the vast need for service projects such as this and believes that service projects are not only for AmeriCorps Members, but that everyone should get involved, roll up their sleeves, and help someone.



Commission Staff

*Linda Thompson, Executive Director
Kevin Edwards, Chief Field Program Officer
Vicky Thomann, Field Program Officer
Katie Bellers, Events Planner and Program Development Coordinator*

The staff of the Missouri Community Service Commission offers technical assistance, one-on-one and group training for all Programs and at least one site-visit per year. The staff is dedicated to the success and compliance of all AmeriCorps Programs across the state. Staff and Commissioners attend as many service projects and events at the Programs as possible.



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